OFFICE OF THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY EXECUTIVE ANGELA D. ALSOBROOKS

PRESS RELEASE

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PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY CANCELLING COVID-19 VACCINE APPOINTMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT LIVE OR WORK IN THE COUNTY

County Enters Phase 1C of Vaccine Distribution for Pre-registration Only

LARGO, MD – Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks announced today that the County is cancelling appointments for individuals who do not live or work in the County that have scheduled appointments at County vaccination sites. The County will be checking for proof of residency or proof of employment in Prince George's County for every vaccination appointment moving forward.

"While we continue to work with our Health Department and across jurisdictions to make sure our vaccine efforts move forward for our County and region, we do not yet have the supply we need to vaccinate everyone here," said Alsobrooks. "Due to the limited supply of vaccine, we will not be able to honor the appointments made by individuals who do not live or work in our County, as we must prioritize our vulnerable County seniors and workers at this time."

Although the County is cancelling appointments for individuals who do not live or work in the County, individuals who already have an appointment to receive a second dose will not have those appointments cancelled. The County is only vaccinating individuals eligible in Phases 1A and 1B who live or work in the County at this time, so individuals in those groups who have pre-registered will be prioritized for appointments that continue to open up.

The County Executive also announced that the County entered Phase 1C of the vaccine distribution plan for pre-registration only. Individuals that live or work in the County and are eligible in Phase 1C should <u>pre-register</u> as soon as possible. Those in 1C, who have pre-registered, will receive appointments as they become available, which the County anticipates could take several weeks or longer due to current vaccine supply.

Previously, the County cancelled all scheduled appointments at the Sports & Learning Complex after February 9. Individuals in Phase 1C that live or work in the County, and already have an appointment scheduled between now and February 9, will not have their appointments cancelled. These individuals will not need to pre-register as long as they keep this appointment.

Last week, after learning that a number of people from outside of the County were able to make vaccination appointments through the State website that was initially opened to the public, the County closed appointments through that website and set up a new scheduling process. Now, all

individuals who live or work in the County that wish to receive a vaccine must fill out a <u>pre-registration form</u>.

As appointments become available based on vaccine supply, eligible individuals will receive links from the Health Department with instructions to schedule an appointment. In addition, individuals who have pre-registered that are in future phases of vaccine distribution will receive a notification when the County moves to future phases.

In addition, the County Executive announced a new plan to support seniors arriving for vaccine appointments. To prevent seniors from having to wait outside for appointments, the County will now place a number on their car and bring them in when it is their turn to receive the vaccine. The County is also urging seniors and others not to show up two to three hours early for their appointments, which has contributed to longer lines. On Monday, February 1, 2021, the County will launch a vaccination hotline that will assist individuals, who have technology barriers, with scheduling appointments over the phone.

Finally, the County Executive announced that the County's positivity rate has dropped to 9.2% based on the latest seven-day average. As a result, indoor dining will resume on Friday, January 29, 2021, at 25% capacity, unless there is a dramatic and unexpected change in this trend.

For more information on COVID-19 vaccines or the latest updates on the County's vaccine distribution plan, visit mypgc.us/COVIDVaccine.

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